

NOVEMBER 2019

ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS
FROM PIERCE COUNTY



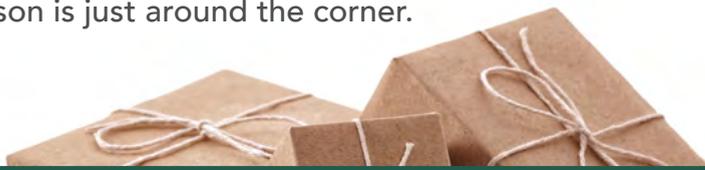
earth matters



3 Ways to Reduce Waste During the Holidays



We're setting up decorated trees, craving hot cocoa and brainstorming gift ideas for our loved ones. The holiday season is just around the corner.



inside

- How to Waste Less Food
- Fantasy Lights Giveaway
- Holiday Reminders

Sign up for Earth Matters updates and read past issues at: piercecountywawa.gov/earthmatters



Did you know that the amount of trash produced in the U.S. increases by an estimated **25%** during the holiday season?

Make sure you're on the nice list this year with these tips to reduce waste. Added benefits: You'll make shopping and gift-giving more meaningful.



Give experiences. Memories last longer than material goods. Plan a trip to the zoo, purchase tickets to a concert or show or sign up for a fun class to take together.



Shop local. Support businesses in your community and save shipping costs and excess packaging.



Get crafty. Whether you like to sew, bake or glue, you'll find ideas for homemade gifts online. We have some ideas to get you started at: piercecountywawa.gov/lesswaste



'Tis the Season *for* Food Waste

Each week, the average Pierce County household throws away three pounds of edible food, which only increases during the holiday season. Multiply that by all our households and it quickly adds up to thousands of tons of food going to the landfill!

This season, with a little extra planning, you can beat the waste (and save time and money!).

✔ Cook once, eat all week.

Save time on busy weeknights by prepping multiple meals at once. Search online for "cook once, eat all week recipes" to start planning your meal. Once you have a grocery list developed, double check your pantry for ingredients you already have. You'll only need to go grocery shopping once! **Tip:** Schedule a day for cooking and storing food. We recommend making sure you have reusable storage containers to keep all the delicious food you'll make!



WHAT'S FOR DINNER?

SUNDAY
Sesame chicken stir fry

MONDAY
Black bean chili

TUESDAY
Leftovers: sesame chicken salad

WEDNESDAY
Leftovers: chili burritos

THURSDAY
Roast turkey, green bean cas
mashed potatoes, stuffing

FRIDAY
Leftovers: turkey tetrazzini

SATURDAY
Pizza night

percecountywa.gov/what

SHOPPING LIST

turkey
chicken thighs

broccoli
carrots
onions
mushrooms
bell peppers
snow peas
celery
lettuce
lemons
green beans
potatoes

butter milk
sour cream
heavy cream
parmesan

3 cans black beans
1 can crushed tomatoes
1 can cream of mushroom soup
onion straws
chicken broth

brown rice
tortillas
bread cubes
linguine

Unless you plan to prepare it that day, put meat in the freezer when you bring it home from the grocery store. It takes a lot of resources to produce the meat we eat—don't let it go to waste.

✔ Revamp your leftovers.

Your leftovers aren't just yesterday's dishes, they're today's tasty new meals! Try repurposing your leftovers into fresh options.

Save bones and vegetable scraps to make a flavorful soup stock. Wrap up leftover meat, rice and veggies in tortillas or add lettuce to make a salad. **Tip:** When in doubt, search online for recipes using your leftover ingredients.

Request a free notepad at: percecountywa.gov/whatsfordinner





Win Tickets to 2019 Fantasy Lights

Dreaming of Fantasy Lights?

Now is your chance! Enter our drawing to win free tickets when you take our online survey by December 1 at:

piercecountywa.gov/recycle

200 lucky winners will be notified by email, and tickets will be mailed during the week of December 2.

Over
90%
of the displays at Fantasy Lights use energy-efficient LEDs

Add some light to these long winter nights! Fantasy Lights, the annual holiday display at Spanaway Park, is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year. New displays include Bigfoot, Old Man Winter, T-rex and fleur-de-lis to decorate the fence.

Pierce County Planning and Public Works is a proud sponsor of the event, which adds more energy-saving LED displays every year. This year parks staff will replace the penguin and igloo scene with LED lights.



Are You *Winter Wise*?

Snow, ice, flooding and wind storms can knock down trees and powerlines and make it difficult to travel.

Learn how to prepare for storms and sign up for emergency alerts at: piercecountywa.gov/winterwise



happy holidays from all of us at Pierce County!

Holiday Service Treecycle



NOV 28

Recycling and garbage will not be collected, and transfer stations will

DEC 25

close on Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's days. Curbside

JAN 1

pickup will occur one day late for the remainder of the week.

Recycle your unflocked Christmas tree in your curbside yard waste cart or at transfer stations in Pierce County. Remove all lights, garland, tinsel and decorations before treecycling.

More info at: piercecountywawa.gov/treecycle
If you live in the city limits of Milton, Orting, Tacoma, Puyallup or Ruston, contact your recycling and garbage service provider for information on special collection programs.

Holiday Reminders

The holidays bring a lot of contamination to recycling carts. Use this reminder sheet to help you know what to do with gift wrap, packaging, holiday lights and more.



Remember: Only gift wrap printed on plain paper is recyclable. Glittery or metallic wrap, tissue paper, cellophane and other types of packaging belong in the garbage.

RECYCLE



DROP-OFF

Find locations for these items and more at piercecountywawa.gov/recyclemenu



REUSE OR DONATE



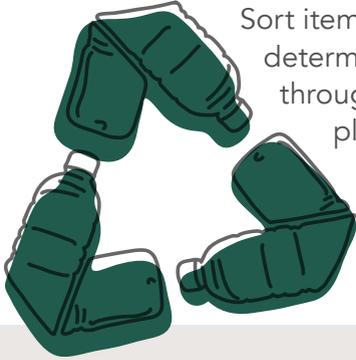
GARBAGE



Sort By Shape, Not Number

Ever wondered what this sign means? 

This is a resin identification code and tells you what type of plastic the container is. **However, the number doesn't indicate whether the plastic can be recycled in Pierce County.**



Sort items by shape, because shape determines how a container travels through the sorting facility. The plastic containers we collect can hold their shape and will be sorted properly.

RULES OF THUMB

Ready to Recycle

Bottles, tubs, jugs, buckets



Take to the Trash

Cups, boxes, clamshells, trays, utensils, toys, etc.



Update Alert! We made some changes to our recycling program in April, so please review the reminders below carefully, to be sure you are recycling the right things. Request a magnet version at: piercecountywa.gov/recycle

RECYCLING

PREPARATION
empty · clean (quick rinse) · no lids

PLASTIC

Recycle plastics by shape.
Ignore numbers/symbols on packaging.



PAPER



METAL



piercecountywa.gov/recycle

Revised 3/19

GARBAGE

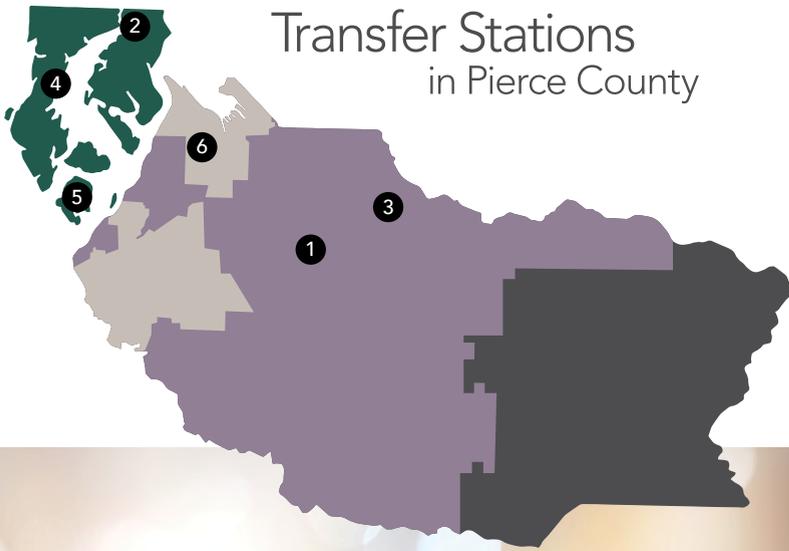
Want to know why some things belong in the garbage?
piercecountywa.gov/reminders



DROP-OFF

Find locations for these items plus options for electronics, appliances, mattresses, clothing, foam packaging and more: piercecountywa.gov/recyclenenu





Transfer Stations in Pierce County

1. Hidden Valley (253) 847-7555
17925 Meridian E, Puyallup
7 days, 8 a.m.–5:45 p.m.
Recycling/Disposal
HHW: Tues & Thurs
2. Purdy (253) 847-7555
14515 54th Ave, Gig Harbor
7 days, 9 a.m.–4:45 p.m.
Recycling/Disposal
3. Prairie Ridge (253) 847-7555
11710 Prairie Ridge Dr E,
South Prairie
7 days, 9 a.m.–4:45 p.m.
Recycling/Disposal
4. Key Center (253) 847-7555
5900 Block Key Peninsula Hwy, Lakebay
Wed–Sun, 9 a.m.–4:45 p.m.
Recycling/Disposal
5. Anderson Island (253) 847-7555
9607 Steffensen Rd, Anderson Island
October 1–March 31:
Sun, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.
Mon, 1 p.m.–5 p.m.
Recycling/Disposal
6. Tacoma (253) 502-2100
3510 S Mullen St, Tacoma
7 days, 8 a.m.–6 p.m.
Accepts Recycling/HHW from
Pierce County residents

HHW=Household hazardous waste

For More Information:

Pierce County Planning & Public Works

SUSTAINABLE RESOURCES

- ☎ (253) 798-2179
- 💻 piercecounitywa.gov/recycle
- ✉ pcrecycle@piercecounitywa.gov

CODE ENFORCEMENT

- ☎ (253) 798-4636
- 💻 piercecounitywa.gov/codeenforcement
- ✉ pcresponds@piercecounitywa.gov

Household Hazardous Waste
& Environmental Health Info:

TACOMA-PIERCE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

- ☎ 1-800-287-6429
- 💻 tpchd.org

 /PierceCountyPPW

 @PierceCo

Pierce County Executive: Bruce F. Dammeier
Pierce County Council: Douglas Richardson, Chair
Marty Campbell, Connie Ladenburg, Jim
McCune, Dave Morell, Pam Roach, Derek Young



Contact your service provider to ask
billing questions, request a smaller trash
can and find out your collection schedule.

Curbside Collection
Contact Info
Murrey's Disposal
American Disposal
DM Disposal
murreysdisposal.com
(888) 806-7048
LeMay Enterprises
Lakewood Refuse
Pierce County Refuse
lemaypiercecounityrefuse.com
(253) 537-8687
University Place Refuse
Westside Disposal
uprefuse.com
(253) 564-3212

EGRWSS – POSTAL CUSTOMER

RECYCLING
REMINDERS
INSIDE

2702 S. 42nd St, Ste 109
Tacoma, WA 98409-7322

Pierce County



PRESORTED
STANDARD
US POSTAGE PAID
TACOMA WA
PERMIT NO 820